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**JUSTICE THOMAS L. KILBRIDE TO ADMINISTER OATH TO NEW
ATTORNEYS**

Supreme Court of Illinois Justice Thomas L. Kilbride will preside and administer the attorney's oath when 42 new lawyers are admitted to practice in ceremonies in Joliet on Thursday, November 7.

The group is among 1,777 men and women who were certified as candidates and will be sworn in as Illinois attorneys at ceremonies in the state's five Supreme Court judicial districts.

The Joliet program in the Third Judicial District will begin at 1:30 p.m. in the theater at Bicentennial Park, located at 201 W. Jefferson Street in Joliet.

Chief Judge Rodney B. Lechwar from the 12th Judicial Circuit will welcome the members of the class and their families and friends.

Associate Judge James T. Mesich from the 14th Judicial Circuit will make opening remarks. His daughter, Kathleen, is a member of the class.

Cheryl I. Niro, past president of the Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA), will be the featured speaker.

Daniel Churchill will make the motion to admit the class. His son, Mark Daniel, is a member of the class.

A reception will follow.

All of the candidates have passed the Illinois State Bar Examination and an ethics examination; and were certified by the Committee on Character and Fitness.

MORE

The new attorneys will bring the total number of licensed attorneys in Illinois to over 77,000.

Media coverage is invited.

Justice Kilbride was elected to the High Court in November 2000 after practicing law for 20 years in the Rock Island area, the last seven as a sole practitioner. He has been counsel for the cities of Silvis and Moline, 17 township governments and several other local units of government.

Justice Kilbride received his B.A. degree *magna cum laude* from St. Mary's College in Winona, Minn., and his law degree from Antioch School of Law in Washington D.C. in 1981. While in law school, Justice Kilbride completed judicial internships for the administrative assistant to the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court and for U.S. District Court Judge Joyce Hens Green.

The Third Judicial District is made up of these counties: Will, Iroquois, Kankakee, Grundy, LaSalle, Marshall, Putnam, Bureau, Whiteside, Henry, Stark, Peoria, Fulton, Knox, Whiteside, Rock Island, Mercer, Warren, Henderson, Hancock and McDonough.

Ceremonies in the other districts will be held in Chicago, Collinsville, Springfield and Elgin.